

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN EDUCATION FOR ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY

A Graduate Program designed to Expand Your Capacity to Teach for Joy & Justice, set within an Environmental Education Context



The IslandWood Graduate Program in Education for Environment and Community (EEC)

prepares grads to ignite change for students, schools, and the planet! Offered in partnership with the University of Washington, the EEC program is an innovative 10-month teaching residency which completes the first year of a University of Washington's (UW) Master's in Education. The IslandWood Graduate Program is located on beautiful Bainbridge Island, just a 35-minute ferry ride from Seattle.

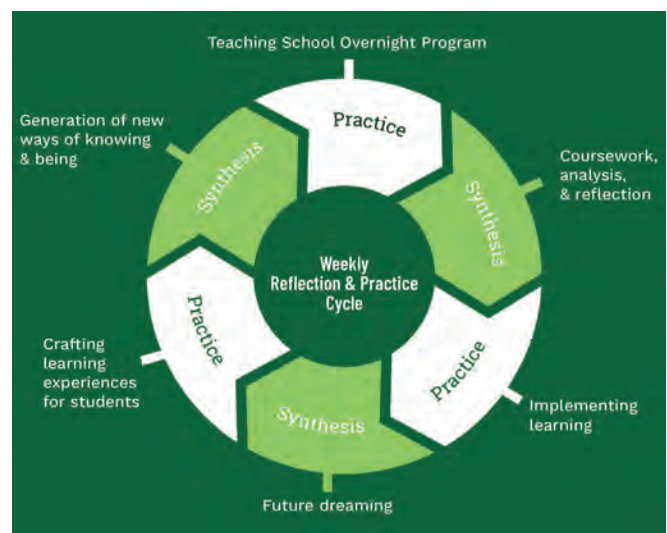
We approach environmental education through a multidisciplinary, place-based, and culturally responsive lens. The program prepares educators to create environmental learning experiences that honor students' full selves and recognize the validity and importance of multiple knowledge sources and systems.

The program is specifically designed to foster a close, interconnected learning community, and as such, has a maximum number of 32 graduate students per year.

WHAT DOES THE EEC PROGRAM CONSIST OF?

In classes and through coursework, mentorship, and applied learning sessions, grads explore various pedagogical approaches, deepen their understanding of their own positionality, and gain strategies for equity-based education.

Grads spend every other week facilitating learning experiences for a School Overnight Program field group of approximately 10 fourth to sixth graders. During this teaching practicum, you will plan and prepare lessons, set personal teaching goals and student learning goals, develop assessment tools, use management techniques, and apply theory from graduate coursework.



"I feel a deep sense of connection to the people in this cohort. Living, working, learning, and teaching together has created such a sense of community and care for one another, which is like nothing I have ever experienced before."

- Maddie, IslandWood Graduate Program Alum

ARE THERE ANY REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION OR PREREQUISITES TO APPLY TO THE PROGRAM?

There is no prerequisite coursework required and we welcome those from all academic backgrounds to apply.

The admissions committee looks at applicants holistically and seeks to admit a diverse group of learners with a variety of backgrounds and expertise. We require applicants to have:

- An undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university
- A demonstrated interest or experiences in culturally-responsive teaching, environmental and social justice issues, experiential education, and working with youth

While our students come from many different academic and professional backgrounds, successful candidates:

- Share a love and appreciation for the outdoors
- Have experience working with youth in some capacity
- Have a desire to improve their skills in equitable education

We have found that the candidates who are most fulfilled are excited to dive into the time-intensive, immersive nature of the program. If this sounds like you, we encourage you to apply or inquire for more information!

IS FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE?

IslandWood offers a graduate program stipend of \$500 a month during the 10-month program (\$5,000 per calendar year) to all enrolled students to help cover basic living expenses.

We offer financial aid options to help put graduate studies within reach of students and to increase the diversity of the education field.

Including:

- The Robert P. Karr Scholarship – This scholarship awards \$20,000 to five students in the IslandWood Graduate Program each year. The award is open to prospective students of color, first-generation college graduates, and those who demonstrate financial need, prioritized in that order.
- Scholarships for candidates from underrepresented communities in the education field as well as candidates that demonstrate financial need.
- Service awards to students affiliated (members, alumni, interns, staff, etc.) with service corps, military, and partner organizations, as well as teachers and paraprofessionals.

LEARN MORE



“Perhaps the most important lesson I learned at IslandWood was that I didn’t need to have a background of sleeping in tents, participating in outdoor recreational sports, or hiking in national parks to be an environmental educator. I just needed to know that I could play a role in connecting people to the environments and communities around them.”

- Ilya S, IslandWood Graduate Program Alum

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